

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KARACH 03735 031127Z
ACTION NEA-10

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-----072451 031134Z /11
O R 030958Z AUG 78
FM AMCONSUL KARACHI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3796
INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

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FOR COUNTRY DIRECTOR NEA/PAB

EO 11652 NA
TAGS: EAIR SNAR PK
SUBJ: FAA PROGRAM FOR BRIGADIER ZAHID

REF: (A) STATE 195056, (B) KARACHI 3720, (C) STATE 164748

1. THE MISUNDERSTANDING ABOUT THE ITINERARY FOR
BRIGADIER ZAHID'S TRIP TO US (REF B) PUTS US IN A
SERIOUSLY EMBARRASSING SITUATION. THE CAUSE OF THE
PROBLEM WAS HIS MISINTERPRETATION OF OUR OFFER TO FUND
HIS TRIP TO OKLAHOMA CITY. WE HAVE REVIEWED OUR
CORRESPONDENCE WITH HIM AND RECONSTRUCTED OUR CONVER-
SATION WITH HIM AS BEST WE CAN, AND IT APPEARS TO US THAT
WE PRESENTED THE OFFER UNAMBIGUOUSLY. NEVERTHELESS,
HIS MISUNDERSTANDING THAT THE OFFER COULD APPLY TO THE
ITINERARY OUTLINED IN REF B WAS GENUINE, IN MY OPINION;
HE DID NOT REALIZE THAT WE REGARDED ATTENDANCE AT THE
COURSE AS MANDATORY. AS HE UNDERSTOOD OUR OFFER THE
FAA COURSE IN AIRPORTS SECURITY IN OKLAHOMA CITY WAS
DESIGNED FOR THE WORKING LEVEL OFFICER RATHER THAN FOR
SENIOR MANAGEMENT. HE IS IN CHARGE OF SECURITY OF ALL
AIRPORTS IN PAKISTAN. CONSEQUENTLY HE FEELS THAT WHAT
HE NEEDS IS BRIEFINGS GEARED TO HIS LEVEL AND TYPE
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OF RESPONSIBILITIES. (ALTHOUGH OUR KNOWLEDGE OF THE
COURSE CONTENT IS ADMITTEDLY LIMITED, IT SEEMS TO US
THAT BRIGADIER ZAHID HAS A POINT OF SOME VALIDITY). HE
WAS UNDER THE IMPRESSION THAT HIS REQUIREMENTS IN THIS
REGARD WERE TO BE MET BY THE MODIFICATION OF HIS ITINERARY
IN THE U.S. TO INCLUDE TOURS OF JFK AIRPORT, FAA HEAD-
QUARTERS IN WASHINGTON, O'HARE AND LOS ANGELES AIRPORTS,

AND A STAY IN OKLAHOMA CITY TO RECEIVE APPROPRIATE BRIEFINGS. IN HIS EYES, THEREFORE, HIS ITINERARY STILL AMOUNTED TO ELEVEN DAYS STAY IN THE U.S., AS MODIFIED, IT WAS APPROVED BY GOP ALONG THOSE LINES.

2. BRIGADIER ZAHID'S GOP TRAVEL ORDERS WERE FLOWN TO KARACHI ESPECIALLY FROM ISLAMABAD ON AFTERNOON AUGUST 2. APPROVAL FOR HIS TRIP CAME FROM HIGHEST LEVELS OF GOP. HE ALSO RECEIVED PERSONAL CALL FROM CMLA GENERAL ZIA UL-HAQ ON AFTERNOON OF AUGUST 2 WISHING HIM WELL ON HIS TRIP. FINALLY WE NOTE THAT THE TEN DAY U.S. PORTION OF HIS TRIP IS BUT A SEGMENT OF BRIGADIER ZAHID'S PLANNED ITINERARY. HE WILL STOP FOR ONE NIGHT IN LONDON AND AFTER HIS U.S. TOUR IS SCHEDULED TO TRAVEL ON TO TOKYO FOR A FOUR DAY CONFERENCE. CANCELLATION OF HIS TRIP TO U.S. AT THIS LATE DATE CONSEQUENTLY WOULD EMBARRASS AND INCONVENIENCE HIM GREATLY.

3. WE BELIEVE THAT CANCELLATION OF BRIGADIER ZAHID'S TRIP WOULD BE LIKELY TO HAVE DETRIMENTAL EFFECT ON U.S. INTERESTS ALSO IN A NUMBER OF AREAS. BRIGADIER ZAHID AND THE AIRPORTS SECURITY FORCE(ASF) HAVE BEEN MOST RECEPTIVE TO SECURITY COURSES AND VISITS PROVIDED BY FAA IN THE PAST. HE HAS BEEN EXCEPTIONALLY HELPFUL TO DEA IN ENDORSING A SERIES OF TRAINING COURSES TO TRAIN HIS MEN IN NARCOTICS MATTERS. HE HAS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PERSONALLY INVOLVED HIMSELF IN SEVERAL OF THESE DEA SPONSORED COURSES AND IT IS OWING CHIEFLY TO HIS SUPPORT THAT WE WERE ABLE TO PUT THE COURSES INTO EFFECT. BRIGADIER ZAHID CONTROLS THE SECURITY OF AND ACCESS TO ALL AIRPORTS IN PAKISTAN. HE HAS BEEN EXTREMELY COOPERATIVE WITH CONGEN OFFICERS AND THOSE OF OTHER U.S. GOVERNMENT AGENCIES, MOST IMPORTANTLY DEA, IN PROVIDING ACCESS TO AIRPORTS. IT SHOULD BE NOTED ALSO THAT HE IS A PERSONAL FRIEND AND LONG TIME COLLEAGUE OF THE CMLA AND OF MANY OTHER HIGH-RANKING MEMBERS OF THE PRESENT GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN.

4. IN VIEW OF THE FOREGOING, I URGE THAT EVERY EFFORT BE MADE TO OBTAIN FUNDING FOR THE BRIEFING TOUR WHICH BRIGADIER ZAHID DESIRES AND WHICH HE UNDERSTOOD WAS BEING OFFERED. IF WE ARE UNABLE TO COME UP WITH THE FUNDING, HE HAS INDICATED THAT HE WILL HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO SKIP THE U.S. PORTION OF HIS TRIP. THIS WOULD BE AT BEST HUMILIATING FOR HIM AND VERY AWKWARD FOR US, AND AT WORST IT WOULD UNDERMINE OUR FRUITFUL COOPERATION THAT WE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO DEVELOP WITH THE ASF TO THE BENEFIT OF THE DEPARTMENT, FAA AND DEA. SINCE BRIGADIER

ZAHID IS SCHEDULED TO DEPART KARACHI AT 0730 ON AUGUST 5,
KARACHI TIME, I HOPE THAT PROMPT RECONSIDERATION CAN BE
GIVEN TO THE MATTER AND FAVORABLE ACTION TAKEN IN RESPONSE
TO THIS RECOMMENDATION.
MOORE

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